

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2692

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BRUSSELS, KHARTOUM, LIBREVILLE AND MASERU
JUN 16 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO QTE

ADDIS ABABA 2692

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, OAU, GB
SUBJECT: OAU JULY MEETINGS IN KHARTOUM AND GABONESE ATTENDANCE

REF: LIBREVILLE 1637

1. EMBOFF MET WITH WELL-INFORMED AND RELIABLE OAU OFFICIAL ON OTHER MATTERS JUNE 16 AND HAD OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE INDIRECTLY QUESTIONS POSED IN REFTEL. RE POSSIBLE CHANGE OF DATES, APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST OF SOME MEMBER STATES FOR W. SAHARA MEETING IN KHARTOUM PRIOR TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, CURRENT OAU CHAIRMAN BONGO DIRECTED OAU SECRETARIAT TO SEND TELEGRAMS OF INQUIRY TO ALL HEADS OF STATE. ACCORDING TO OAU OFFICIAL, RESPONSES UNIFORMLY REJECTED ANY CHANGES OF JULY 7-15 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING AND JULY 18-21 HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT SUMMIT DATES. CIRCULAR TELEGRAM WAS PROBABLY SOURCE OF REPORT THAT BONGO WAS SEEKING TO ADVANCE KHARTOUM MEETING DATE. DATES ARE FIXED AND IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY ANY OAU CONFERENCE ON W. SAHARA WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO COM. UNDOUBTEDLY BONGO WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTING IN HIS ROLE AS OAU CHAIRMAN AND PROBABLY NOT ON PERSONAL BASIS.

2. RE BONGO ATTENDANCE IN KHARTOUM, OAU OFFICIALS NOW EXPECT HIM TO ATTEND JULY 18-21 SUMMIT. THEY SUPPORTED REASONING OF REFTEL, PARA 3, CONCERNING BONGO'S RESPONSIBILITY AS OUTGOING CHAIRMAN AND NOTED THAT

HE IS INSCRIBED ON DRAFT AGENDA OF SUMMIT TO GIVE STATEMENT. OAU OFFICIAL SPECULATED THAT 24-25 HEADS OF STATE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN KHARTOUM, AND COULD POSSIBLY INCLUDE ETHIOPIAN DIRG CHAIRMAN MENGISTU.

3. FOR LIBREVILLE: REPORT OF OAU MISSION TO SAO TOME AND PRINCE IS LISTED IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS "PROVISIONAL DRAFT" AGENDA. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO OAU OFFICIAL, DR. PETER ONU, OAU POLITICAL AFFAIRS ASST SEC GEN, HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO VISIT S.T.&P AND PROBABLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BEFORE COM. OFFICIAL SPECULATED IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT ONU COULD SEND LOWER LEVEL MISSION, BUT DID NOT KNOW ABOUT POSSIBLE TIMING. MATHERON UNQTE
MATHERON

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